



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

Band Assembly Weekly Update: Week of November 2-6, 2020

Tuesday, November 3, 2020: Legislative hosted a Pre-Band Assembly meeting to discuss the agenda items. There was discussion of Reports and Presentations by Brendan Fairbanks – Donation request for University of Minnesota, Ojibwe Immersion House and Melissa “Baabiitaw” Boyd– Suspension of Grievance Committee, Early Elder Retirement Option. Unfinished business Nomination TERO, Resolution from leasing of Trust Lands, and 3 MLCV Bills. New Business Bill – Leasing of Trust Lands (HEARTH Act), Bill – supplemental appropriation for HHS, Natural Resources, and Education, 2 CMD Contracts, HHS Contract, Judicial Contract, Formal Notification from Commissioner of Corporate Affairs, Joseph Nayquonabe, and 8 MLCV Formal Requests FY2021 Capital Projects.

Wednesday, November 4, 2020: Band Assembly occurred through conference call and Zoom.

- **Approval of Agenda:** Band Assembly approved the agenda.
- **Approval of Minutes:** None.
- **Reports and Presentations:**

10:30 a.m. Brendan Fairbanks, Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota
Re: Donation request for the University of Minnesota, Ojibwe Immersion House

11:00 a.m. Melissa “Baabiitaw” Boyd, Commissioner of Administration
Re: Suspension of Grievance Committee, Early Elder Retirement Option

- **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) **Nomination (TERO):** A letter from Secretary-Treasurer Boyd dated October 22, 2020 nominating Ezra Sam and Krista Klug to serve on the Tribal Employment Rights Commission Board. Term expiration date will be December 31, 2024. **Tabled 10/28/2020**
 - b) **Resolution 19-02-05-21:** A Resolution Authorizing Submission of the Mille Lacs Band Leasing of Trust Lands Code to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (“BIA”) Central Office, Deputy Bureau Director – Office of Trust Services (“DBD-TS”). **Tabled 10/7/2020**
 - c) **Band Assembly Bill 18-04-16-20:** A Bill for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (“Corporate Ventures”), a corporate body politic of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (“Band”), for the purpose of appropriating funds and authorizing expenditures to Corporate Ventures for its operations, and capital and economic development projects for the period beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020.

Sponsor: District I Representative

Tabled 12/10/2019

- d) **Band Assembly Bill 18-04-17-20:** A Bill for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (“Corporate Ventures”), a corporate body politic of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (“Band”), for the purpose of appropriating funds and authorizing expenditures to Corporate Ventures for the operations, and capital and economic development projects of any current or future non-gaming business managed or operated directly or indirectly by Corporate Ventures (“Non-Gaming Businesses”) for the period beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020.
Sponsor: District II Representative **Tabled 12/10/2019**
- e) **Band Assembly Bill 18-04-18-20:** A Bill for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (“Corporate Ventures”), a corporate body politic of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (“Band”), for the purpose of appropriating funds and authorizing expenditures to Corporate Ventures for the operations, and capital and economic development projects of Grand Casino Hinckley and Grand Casino Mille Lacs (“Casinos”) for the period beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020.
Sponsor: District III Representative **Tabled 12/10/2019**
- f) Revenue Allocation Plan
Pending further discussions.
- **New Business:**
- a) **Band Assembly Bill 19-02-04-21:** A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the Health & Human Services, Natural Resources and Education Departments for the Fiscal Years ending September 30, 2020 and September 30, 2021.
Sponsor: District III Representative. Bill was introduced and approved.
- b) **Band Assembly Bill 19-02-05-20:** A Bill enacting the Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Home Ownership Act, to be known as Leasing of Trust Lands, and numbered in the Mille Lacs Band Statutes as Chapter 7 of Title 21. The Leasing of Trust Lands Code will grant the Band the authority to negotiate and enter into leases without further approvals by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. Specifically, the Act authorizes the Band to execute agricultural and business leases of Band trust lands for a primary term of 25 years and up to two renewal terms of 25 years each. Leases of Band trust lands for residential, recreational, religious, or educational purposes may be executed for a primary term of up to 75 years. **Sponsor: District I Representative.** Bill was introduced and approved with changes and with a waiver of the formal reading.
- c) **Resolution 19-02-12-21:** A Resolution Approving the Continuance of the Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, Non-Gaming, and Gaming Fiscal Operations Until December 31, 2020. Resolution was approved with a waiver of the formal reading.
- d) **Contract (CMD):** A contract addendum #3 for Degerstrom and Sons Construction, LLC to increase the contract for additional repairs needed for the renovation at 2481 and 2489 Evergreen Court in Hinckley. The addendum also extends the contract end date to December 31, 2020. Contract was approved.

- e) **Contract (CMD):** A contract addendum #1 for Degerstrom and Sons Construction, LLC to extend the contract end date from June 30, 2020 to July 31, 2021 for the residential fire rehab project located at 17687 Ookwemin Loop in Onamia. Contract was approved.
- f) **Contract (HHS):** A contract for Sage Prairie to develop a chronic pain clinic for the Band and provide patient care 4-6 hours a week at the Ne Ia Shing Clinic. Contract end date is September 30, 2021. Contract was approved.
- g) **Contract (Judicial):** A contract for the Law Office of Cynthia Miller to provide technical assistance and training for the Guardian Ad Litem. Contract end date is September 30, 2021. Contract was approved.
- h) **Formal Notification** dated October 29, 2020 from Joseph Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs, of FY2021, Capital Projects that reads as follows:

“Please accept this letter as a formal notification that we intend to open FY2021 capital projects. Per the revenue ordinance we must provide notice at least ten (10) business days before expending the money on a project equal to or exceeding \$25,000 and less than \$250,000. If the Band Assembly fails to stay the project within ten (10) business days after receiving notice, then Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures may expend money on the project.”

1. Grand Casino Mille Lacs – Projects – Scoping Services
2. Grand Casino Hinckley – Security – Patrol Vehicle
3. Grand Casino Hinckley – Grounds – Gardener Truck
4. Grand Casino Hinckley – Projects – Scoping Services
5. Grand Casino Mille Lacs & Hinckley – Information Technology – Telecom Hardware/Software Replacement.

Formal notification was approved.

- i) **Formal Request FY2021 Capital Project (MLCV):** Grand Casino Mille Lacs New Device and Computer Equipment. Formal Request approved.
- j) **Formal Request FY2021 Capital Project (MLCV):** Grand Casino Hinckley New Device and Computer Equipment. Formal Request approved
- k) **Formal Request FY2021 Capital Project (MLCV):** Grand Casino Mille Lacs and Hinckley – Infrastructure Hardware/Software Replacement. Formal Request approved
- l) **Formal Request FY2021 Capital Project (MLCV):** Gaming Regulatory Authority – Surveillance Capital. Formal Request approved
- m) **Formal Request FY2021 Capital Project (MLCV):** Grand Casino Mille Lacs Slot Capital. Formal Request approved

- n) **Formal Request FY2021 Capital Project (MLCV):** Grand Casino Hinckley – HVAC Upgrades. Formal Request approved
- o) **Formal Request FY2021 Capital Project (MLCV):** Grand Casino Mille Lacs – HVAC Upgrades. Formal Request approved
- p) **Formal Request FY2021 Capital Project (MLCV):** Grand Casino Hinckley – Slot Capital. Formal Request approved

- **Letters/Announcements: None.**

- **Scheduled Meetings/Events:**

November 11, 2020 Holiday – Warriors Day

November 12, 2020 Band Assembly Meeting

November 18, 2020 Band Assembly Meeting

November 25, 2020 Holiday – Noon Closing **No Band Assembly**

November 26-27, 2020 Holiday – Miigwech Day

- **Other:**

Thursday, November 5, 2020: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly members, Legal Counsel, Staff Attorney, and Legislative Staff. Work Session Agenda: Look over comments that came in during the public comment period for the Revisor of Statutes Code. The attendees went through the comments received and the Notice of Formal Public Hearing. Discussion of public hearing process. Consideration of all comments and agreement on draft changes while ensuring the comments enhance the Revisor of Statutes Code.